

Sunsuntila Centre – Success Stories

GEOFREY LUPIYA MATIPA



My name is Geoffrey Lupiya and I am 78 years old. I am married to Evelyn who is 70 years old and we have been married since 1964. We live in Chulungoma area in Mbala District. We had 9 children (6 boys and 3 girls) but 4 of our sons, together with their wives have since passed away (died). One of my sons and his wife died from AIDS; while the death of my other three sons and their wives were not clearly known. This situation has made my wife and I to take care of 4 grandsons and 1 granddaughter in our old age.

In 2015, the HID Programme, through the Sunsuntila Orphan Day Care Centre started supporting two of our grandsons. Then in 2016, (Sunsuntila) HID Programme supported me with farming inputs to enable me to grow maize to help me improve my household food security and income. I used some money raised to start to construct a house to which we have shifted even though it is still under construction. Apart from the Livelihoods support I received from (Sunsuntila) HID Programme, I have also attended training programmes in improved farming methods, child protection and children's rights.

The support I have received from (Sunsuntila) HID has really helped me a lot; especially in the area of improving food security and household income. It has brought hope to my wife and I as we are now in a better position to help our grandchildren.



After initial help with inputs for farming, Geoffrey and his wife Evelyn, were able to build a new house using local bricks. Their new house has an iron sheet roof (galvanise).



Children studying at SunSuntila Centre after school



Training workshop for 30 OVC guardians in farming as a business



Above: One of the group discussions for OVC guardians during entrepreneurship training



Below: A 5 day training workshop for 14 SunSuntila staff



A 5 days training workshop for 54 guardians for under-five children, learning and demonstrating to prepare different types of local nutritious foods





MAGGIE KOWA

My name of Maggie Kowa and I am 70 years old. I live in Zambia Compound (popularly known as Maroundi) in Mbala District. When my daughter died in 2009, she left me with my granddaughter Patricia Kaoma, who was only a few months old at the time her mother died. Since I didn't have the means to take care of her, I took her to Sunsuntila Orphan Day Care Centre. They started her on infant formula milk before she was put on solid foodstuffs. The HID Programme put her into pre-school until this year when she has started grade one (1) at Celeste primary school.

In order to help me to attain self-sustainability, (Sunsuntila) HID Programme capacity built me in micro business training. Then the HID Programme then gave me a start-up capital of ZMW 2,000.00 which I have been using to buy and resell charcoal. I have opened a bank account with Cavmont Bank Mbala and I have a balance of ZMW 1,490.00 in my account. And I must state that, this is the first time in my whole life that I have managed to open a bank account. I use the profits realised from my business to buy some school requisites (e.g. shoes and books) for my granddaughter.

I appreciate the support I have received from the HID Programme as it has helped to improve my economic status. Without this support, I would be able to support my granddaughter the way I am doing now. I urge those who support Sunsuntila to continue so that elderly people like me who have the responsibilities of looking after our grandchildren who are left behind by our children who die young, are given the much needed support to raise our granddaughters.



Right: Maggie, with one of her friends, proudly showing their Savings book – both have now opened bank accounts as a result of setting up small buying and selling businesses after been trained by Sunsuntila. Also in the photograph are left, MÓ O'Dwyer on a monitoring visit from Dublin and Joseph Mulenga, the accountant at Sunsuntila



Beatrice Nayame is 67 years old, she takes care of her 93 years old mother and 3 grandchildren. She was empowered with 4 x 50kg bags of fertilizer by Sunsuntila and a 10kg bag of maize seed. Beatrice harvested 19 x 100kg bags of maize in the 2015 farming season. She sold 10 x 100kg of maize and bought a plot where she intends to build a house



The new storage facility for Sunsuntila's hammer mill. Maize can now be bought when prices are cheaper and stored so that there is all year round production



Maize field for Rebecca Nayame after training in farming as a business



Local chicken house for Astridah Namfukwe one of the trained OVC guardians in chicken rearing